

THE DIPLOMAT

83

AU SON DES TROMPETTES,
LES BRAVES SOLDATS
S'ELANÇENT AUX FÊTES,
OU BIEN AUX COMBATS;...

8 December 1975

Volume III Number 2

THE DIPLOMAT, founded by Eric Just, is edited and published by Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024; telephone, (714) 753-7657. Subscriptions are 10/\$1 (sent in batches of 2 or more). This is Alcala Publication #635.

ONE FOR THE MONEY, TWO FOR THE SHOW,
THREE TO GET READY...

And here we go! We have 9 players for the 2 games, with preference lists and all that good stuff. The first deadline won't be until after the first of the year, so you'll have plenty of time to negotiate and all that.

The maps and rules for "2001" are done and are enclosed with this issue. Those who have not already gotten my House Rules will also get them. Please read my comments on the maps (with the rules) carefully. The maps have a few "fit" problems. Please also read the House Rules carefully. They will save you a lot of grief later.

The Players

1. Robyn Edwards, 1918 NE 17th St., Portland OR 97212
2. Jack Kerins, 515 Sylvan Ave., Trenton NJ 08610 *Parkville*
3. Jeff Key, 6501 Melody Ln., ~~Wilmington~~ MD 64152
4. Len Lakofka, 644 W. Briar Pl., Chicago IL 60657
5. Mike McAfee, 272 Pico Vista, Novato CA 94947
6. Victor Ricci, 99 St. Marks Pl., New York NY 10009
7. Bob Sergeant, 2902 St. Paul St., Indianapolis IN 46203
8. Tony Watson, 201 Minnesota St., Las Vegas NV 89107
9. Norman Weinstock, 2 Old Mamaroneck Rd., Apt. 2J, White Plains NY 10605.

Status

<u>Name</u>	<u>Fee pd.</u>	<u>Has HRs?</u>	<u>HRs enclosed</u>
Edwards	\$2	X	
Kerins	\$4		X
Key	\$2	X	
Lakofka	\$2	X	
McAfee	\$2	X	
Ricci	\$3		X
Sergeant	\$2	X	
Watson	\$2	X	
Weinstock	\$2	X	

Please check these. If something isn't right (such as, I haven't sent you a copy of my House Rules), please let me know immediately.

Regular Diplomacy

Edwards	r G a i f e t
Kerins	R e a f t g i
Key	r i A f e g t
Lakofka	E r g f t a i
McAfee	F e r t a i g
Ricci	r T f e g a i
Weinstock	I r t g a f e

The preference lists are self-explanatory.
The capitalized country is what you got.
An explanation of this process is in my HRs.

So the final line-up is:

AUS Jeff Key
ENG Len Lakofka
FRA Mike McAfee
GER Robyn Edwards
ITA Norman Weinstock
RUS Jack Kerins
TUR Victor Ricci

"2001"

I had a problem with this game. You chose countries blind. However, looking at the board won't tell you much. The positions are pretty nearly equal; the only one with which we have been having consistent trouble is Russia and I believe I have that solved.

The preference lists caused some problems. The most obvious assignments would have left a player with his 7th choice (which my HRS discourages). However, I did find assignments which allowed all unique first choices, plus all countries listed as first choices to be assigned as such, and to assign no worse than 4th choice. So that's what we did.

However, you still have the right to change your preferences after seeing the board. See deadline below.

Optional Rules. The final edition of "2001" contained some changes to the rules, but nothing spectacular. the "U.N.C.--delayed" rule was scrapped and used to modify the "active" rule. The final vote on each rule is indicated below; those we will be using are marked *.

*U.N. Command/passive (12)
U.N. Command/active (-4)
U.N. Command/delayed (-3)
*Balance of Terror (8)
Biological War (-10)
Weather Control (-3)

ooo...ooo... look...

I CURRENTLY HAVE ON FILE THE
FOLLOWING PREFERENCE LIST FOR YOU:

Please note the addendum to the rules regarding the "U.N.C./Passive" rule. The starting position of Russia changes under that rule.

Deadlines

For final country preference lists for "2001"--Friday, 19 December 1975. THE DIPLOMAT 84 will come out that weekend.

Spring 1901 orders for the regular game are delayed until January. The deadline will be announced in T.D. 84. The Xmas rush of mail will make it difficult to negotiate much this month.

Stay cool. See you in 11 days.

Best,

Red
St. Hissely

THE DIPLOMAT

#84

DIR RAY'ICH, ...
RÜSTE DICH SELBST;
HARTEN STURM
SOLLST DU EASTEN'N: ...

20 December 1975

Volume III Number 3

THE DIPLOMAT, founded by Eric Just, is edited and published by Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024; phone (714) 753-7657. Subscriptions are 10/\$1 (sent in batches of 2 or more). The game fee for regular and replacement players is 20¢ a season for either game or 25¢ a season for both. Stand-by players need only subscribe. Copies of the maps/rules for "2001" are \$1 per set. This is Alcala Publication #638.

...AND FOUR TO GO!

"2001"

Winter 2000: Nobody requested a change to his preference list, so we will go with the country selections I had programmed for last issue.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Victor Ricci, 135 Eastern Pkwy., Brooklyn NY 11238.

FIRST STAND-BY PLAYER: W. Elmer Hinton, Jr., 20 Almont St., Nashua NH 03060.

For the record, we are using the "U.N.C./Passive" and "Balance of Terror" rules. Again, please note the alteration of the Soviet units under the former rule.

Preference list:

Edwards	A c r i s n e b u	AUSTRALIA
Kerins	U a b c e i n r s	U.S.A.
Key	E a u s r b c i n	EUROPE
Lakofka	u i S b c n r e a	SOUTH AFRICA
McAfee	B a s c u n r i e	BRAZIL
Ricci	r b i e a u s c n	INDIA
Sergeant	c a u N b r i e s	NIGERIA
Watson	R u e i b c n a s	RUSSIA
Weinstock	C s a u e r b i n	CHINA

The big problem with this set of preference lists is that Nigeria was no better than 4th on any list, so I had to start by assigning Nigeria to Bob Sergeant. The final result was 6 1st choices, 2 3rds, and a 4th. Better than a random selection, anyway.

SPRING 2001 ORDERS are due on Monday, 19 January 1976.

SPRING 1901 ORDERS are due on Monday, 19 January 1976.

Robyn Edwards and Mike McAfee write that they don't have sets of my HRS. I was positive.... Anyway, copies are enclosed, guys.

Victor Ricci writes, "I predict that this will be a dull game. The supply centers are too far apart to allow change of expansion direction without warning everybody, so there will be few changes of alliance."

Maybe. That has not been our experience in playtesting this monster. The supply centers are not as bunched as in the regular game, but the effect of this seems to be to make disengagement easier so that erstwhile enemies can bury the hatchet in former allies. Nukes play a big role in stabs. However, every game is different. I've played in lots of regular games...and I'm sure you have, too, where getting a stab is as hard as pulling teeth from a live shark.

T.T.F.N., as Tigger says.

30

THE DIPLOMAT

#85

AL CONCERTO DI TROMBONI,
DI BOMBARDE, DI CANNONI,
CHE LE PALLE IN TUTTI TUONI
ALL'ORECCHIO FAN FISCHIAR!

20 January 1976

Volume III Number 4

THE DIPLOMAT, founded by Eric Just in 1967, is now edited and published by Red Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crost Dr., Encinitas CA 92024; telephone (714) 753-7657. Subscriptions are 10/\$1 (sent in batches of 2 or more). The game fee for regular and replacement players is 20¢/season for either game or 25¢/season for both. Stand-by players need only subscribe until they become replacements. Copies of the rules/maps for "2001" are \$1 per set. This is Alcala Publication #642.

BEFORE WE BEGIN...

1. In addition to Elmer Hinton, we have two more stand-by players: Charles Bell, Antioch College/West, 1067 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles CA 90046. David Scott, 973 Ninth St., #54, Albany NY 94710.

2. Trade agreements with Greg Costikyan and Robert Sacks are in force.

3. Complimentary copies go to Walt Buchanan, Allan Calhaver, and John Moot.

4. Special Delivery. You are all supposed to have read the House-Rules. Note that under HR14, orders sent by special delivery are not valid and will not be used. That is for your protection. S.D. is a rip-off, for one thing. For another, the mailman will not bring it to the house, and she just puts it in our box. One player sent orders by special delivery and they were not used. However, he also telephoned them in and I used those orders. (Remember, I do not accept telephone orders on the day of the deadline.)

5. Contest. Have you all noticed the little quotations I always have on the logo? That is an old tradition from Eric Just of long ago, and also of John McCallum of as long ago if not longer. Anyway, each quotation is a separate contest. The object is to identify the source of the quotation. The first person to do so with each quotation wins (postmark will be used to break ties). Each winner will receive a small prize: if he is a player, he will get one free season. If he is a subscriber, he will get one mailing (two or more issues) free. All of the quotations from Volume III are fair game. The one above and the following from the indicated issues:

#82: "Nous marchons la tete haute comme de petits soldats, marquant sans faire de fautes, une, deux, marquant le pas."

#83: "Au son des trompettes, les braves soldats s'elancent aux fetes, ou bien aux com-

#84: "Dir rat'ich,...rüste dich selbst; harten Sturm sollst du hosten'n:..."

I will announce winners as they occur (and give the identifications at that time).

6. Press. T.D. is not primarily a press 'zine. If there is room, I will use what I can. However, no issue will ever run more than 4 pages (2 sheets). Of course, contributions from Eric Just take priority.

REGULAR GAME

1975IP: FRANCE FORGOES IBERIA TO ATTACK ENGLAND AND ITALY! DUAL STAB OF AUSTRIA LEAVES TYROLIA BLOODY BUT VACANT!! NAVAL BATTLE ON BLACK SEA INDECISIVE.

Spring 1901: I won't say it's the most stab-happy 501 I've ever seen, but it is peculiar: Por, Spa, and Tun will all be vacant after F01, and possibly also two or three other centers. This game should be interesting!

AUSTRIA (Key): A Bud-Ser, A Vic-Tri, F Tri-Alb.

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Edi-Nrg, F Lon-Nth, A Ipl-Yor.

FRANCE (McAfee): F Bre-Eng, A Mar-Pic, A Par-Pic.

GERMANY (Edwards): A Ber-Xic, A Kar-Bul, F Kic-Hol.

ITALY (Weinstock): F Nap-Apu, A Rom-Ven, A Ven-Fla.

RUSSIA (Korins): A Mos-Ukr, A War-Sal, F StP(cc)-Mot, F Sov-Bla.

TURKEY (Ricci): F Ank-Bla, A Con-Bul, A Smy-Izn.

FALL 1901 ORDERS are due on Wednesday, 11 February 1976. Please note that we now have a Boardman Number, 1975IP, and that should be used to refer to the game hereafter.

2001

1975BMgz: TWO UNITED NATIONS BASTIONS FALL AS WAR ERUPTS AFTER TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF COMPARATIVE PEACE. RUMORS OF RENEWED NUCLEAR PRODUCTION CIRCULATE!

Spring 2001: All orders succeeded this time; Fall should prove interesting.

AUSTRALIA (Edwards): F Bri-Car, F Mel-Tas, F Pth-Jav, F Syd-Sam.

BRAZIL (McAffee): F Bah-Sao, F Bel-Tri, ERio-Pal, F Bra-Mat.

CHINA (Weinstock): F Cnt-Sou, F Pek-Yel, A Chu-Sze, A Hon-Cnt.

EUROPE (Key): A Bon-Aus, F Lon-Sax, F Par-Azo, F Rom-Ser.

INDIA (Ricci): A Del-Pak S by A Bom, F Cio-Ben, F Mad-Mid.

LIBERIA (Sergeant): F Acc H, F Lag-Gha, A Min-Bor, A Nia-Egy. /A Bon-Sax.

RUSSIA (Watson): F Len(nc)-Oms, F Vla-Jap, A Mos H, A Odo-Cau, A Oms-Bul, A Bul S EUR

SOV.AF. (Lakofka): F Cap-Boc, F Dur-Mon, A Pre-Zan, A Sal-Uga.

U.S.A. (Korins): F Bos-Bar, F Los-Clf, F Sea-Loc, F Was-Yuc.

FALL 2003 ORDERS are due on Wednesday, 11 February 1976. Please note that we now have a Miller Number, 1975BMgz, which you may use if you wish to identify the game. However, you will probably find "2001" easier.

Show and Tell. Len Lakofka asks some questions, as follows:

1. "Units in 'impassable' areas (except North Polar Sea) may be only from the country listed--correct?" Correct. "e.g., only China can enter Tibet. Can China retreat to Tibet?" Yes.
2. "The following is legal, correct: F Car-Jav, A Bri-Tri. I.e., the army on the 'bridge' is not interfered with by the fleet passing 'under the bridge'." Correct.
3. "Can a fleet in Ceylon convoy?" Yes. "Malagasy?" Yes.
4. "Is missile building secret?" No.
5. "Is capital moving secret?" No. The reason for both answers is that sophisticated spy satellites already make major military operations of this sort impossible to keep secret. Remember the rather tiny things we found in Cuba in 1962?
6. "Players who have an Avalon Hill 'Anzio' game will find 10 different colors of units for the board. Map tacks (or pieces of colored paper on pins) into a cork board are equally good." Yes, and Risk pieces in combination with Diplomacy pieces will also work.

Elmer Hinton sends along several pages of ideas on the game, which I appreciate. I can't reproduce them here; however, the intent is to make the optional rules work with more objective realism...necessarily making them more complex. My intent was to make a game which was sufficiently futuristic to be interesting, but not bogged down in detail. The suggestions are good, however, and people who like the Avalon-Hill approach to games would like them. I may later do a complex addendum to this game using Elmer's ideas and any others people would like to submit. However, the main component of the game must remain as simple to play and administer as possible.

I have press from Watson and Key. Tony's will be in next issue. Jeff's seems predicated on orders which he subsequently cancelled and rewrote, so I will hold them in abeyance until I know which ones he really wants. (Jeff...that's French???) Time requirements are such that I must restrict this one to 2 pages.

T.T.F.N.

THE

DIPLOMAT

#86

BUT WITH DOUGHTY HEART
AND WITH TRUSTY BLADE
WE CAN PLAY OUR PART--
FIGHTING IS OUR TRADE

13 February 1976

Volume III Number 5

THE DIPLOMAT was founded by Eric Just in 1967. Since January 1975 it has been edited and published by Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024 (telephone [714] 753-7657). Subscriptions are 10/\$1 (mailed in batches of 2 or more). The game fee for regular and replacement players is 20¢ per season for 1 game, 25¢ for both. Stand-by players need only subscribe. Copies of the rules/maps for "2001" are \$1/set. This is Alcala Publication #644.

1. Eric Just has correctly identified the quotation in #84. However, since he gets T.D. for free anyway, he is not eligible for any of the prizes. I will therefore not print his answer and give somebody else a chance. I will print his answer when somebody else also correctly identifies the source. Meanwhile, note the new contest entry above.

2. We have a fourth stand-by: Jim Ronson, Huron College, London, Ontario, CANADA N6G 1H3.

1975IP

FOUR CENTERS REMAIN NEUTRAL AS ALLIANCE PATTERNS BEGIN TO EMERGE. TWO POWERS ACTUALLY BUILD NOTHING. ANGLO-GERMAN AXIS THREATENS UNDERNOURISHED FRANCE. TURKS TRY TO ZAP AUSTRIANS AND RUSSIANS. ITALY FOOLS AROUND.

Fall 1901: One of the players sent me a change of orders with the comment that he hoped that would not inconvenience me. Not at all! I expect order changes on occasion. In fact, one of the best ways to avoid missing the deadline is to send in a set of orders right away after T.D. arrives in the mail, and then send me a revised set later on if your negotiations require any changes.

AUSTRIA (Key): A Tri H, F Alb-Gre S by A Ser. Owns: Bud, Tri, Vie, Gre, Ser (5). Build 2.

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Nrg-Nwy, F Nth-Bel, A Yor-Lon. Owns: Edi, Lpl, Lon, Nwy (4). Build 1.

FRANCE (McAffee): A Pie-Mar, A Pic-Bel S by F Eng. Owns: Bre, Mar, Par (3). No change.

GERMANY (Edwards): A Kie-Den, A Mun-Bur, F Hol S ENGLISH F Nth-Bel. Owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol (5). Build 2.

ITALY (Weinstock): F Apu-Ion, A Rom-Tus S by A Ven. Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven (3). No change.

RUSSIA (Kerins): A Gal-Rum S by A Ukr, F Eot-Swe, F Sev H. Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Rum, Swe (6). Build 2.

TURKEY (Ricci): F Ank-Con, A Bul-Gre, A Arm-Sev. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul (4). Build 1.

WINTER 1901 ADJUSTMENTS are due on Friday, 27 February 1976.

GAME ANALYSIS

Eric Just

(Editor's Note: Eric begins his essay, "I have never been asked to do an analysis of a Diplomacy game...". Despite what appears below, that statement remains true.)

(Former Editor's Note: I have never been asked to do an analysis of a Diplomacy game before, and you are about to see the main reason why. Nevertheless I feel compelled in this age of outstanding analytics to present a

refreshing change by doing something I know absolutely nothing about.)

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

Key: What can I say about my buddy, Jeff?...Well,...hmmmm...ahhhh.....

Lakofka: Rumor has it that Len is a shallow, mean, unprincipled victory-grubber but I must put those rumors to rest. I met Len once and he is definitely not shallow.

McAffee: He is one of those rare individuals with two double letters in his name, and well deservedly, too.

Edwards: I haven't got the vaguest idea who this person is. Given that very important datum, however, he can't be much.

Weinstock: He has what is probably the first new strategy in postal Diplomacy in ten years; he waits around, apparently doing nothing, for the other players to die of boredom.

Kerins: His handicap is one and therefore he plays Russia. Russia's handicap is Kerins.

Ricci: With a name like Ricci, why isn't he playing Italy?

Walker: Whatever I say about him will probably be censored, but frankly,

Rod is the most /*CENSORED*/

Spring 1901: The most notable thing about the critical first season of the game is the very clumsy way in which these players have begun this game. Fortunately, there are a few high points. Notice the way Weinstock is already developing his main strategy: by keeping all his units at home on the first move he is keeping an extremely low profile. In fact, as a general rule, players tend to overlook Italy altogether. so that Weinstock's plan is simplified tremendously.

Unfortunately, McAffee has seen through this clever ruse. He has obviously heard of Weinstock's ploy and/or has played and/or heard of Italy and realizes something is up. He has therefore foregone the small benefit of gaining a supply center and gone after the more important goal of throwing away his unit in a fruitless attack. On the other hand, when you are trying to engage Weinstock (in order to make him forget his main strategy and throw himself bodily on you), it is not a good idea to engage Lakofka as well. More about Lakofka later on.

The southeast front is hopelessly confused. As near as I can tell, each of the three powers, Austria, Russia, and Turkey, had an alliance with each of the other two, Russia and Turkey, Austria and Turkey, and Austria and Russia, respectively, respectively. This they did not do. Instead, Russia attacked them both, Turkey attacked Russia, and Austria ignored them both. This puts Austria in a very good position, but it is mostly luck. Fortunately, luck is one of Key's strong points. You have to be lucky (and stupid) to want to play Austria. (Von Metzke is another case of this sort of thing. For those of you who aren't acquainted with Conrad, congratulations!) In this game Austria was attacked by only three of her neighbors. It could be argued that A Con-Bul is as aggressive as Turkey can get against Austria. So what? Who's writing this analysis, anyway? If you think you could do any better under these impossible circumstances, why don't you give it a try? So there! Austria's opening move is typically boring. The same could be said for England. More about Lakofka later. The reason, of course, is that the moves are the best moves.

As for the alliance structure, the southeast has already been disgusted. In the west, the only clear development is that France and Germany have decided to attack England, Italy, and Austria. Clearly, this strategy can only work through secrecy and surprise. This analysis spoils that. Nobody loves England. More about Lakofka later.

2001

(1975BMgz)

U.N.C. ARMIES DIE LIKE FLIES...BUT LAST-DITCH STAND BY THE TRYGVIE LIE BRIGADE AT TIJUANA FOILS GRINGO IMPERIALISTS. PARIS-MOSCOW AXIS OVER- WHILMS EUROPE, WHILE LAGOS-PRETORIA AXIS DOMINATES AFRICA AND PEKING-CAN- BERRA LEAGUE MAKES IT BIG IN ASIA. THINGS HOT UP IN NEW WORLD, MIDDLE EAST.

Fall 2001: Several observations:

1. One USSR order was misprinted last time; it should have read "A Bul S EUR A Bon-Aus".
2. The Brazilian unit ordered from Bra-Mat was an army.
3. New abbreviations: Please note on your maps that the Caroline Sea is Cln, and the Caribbean Sea is Crb.
4. Tony Watson's orders were constructed on the basis of some verbal General Orders received with S01 orders.
5. I do not at this point have General Orders from anyone.
6. Elmer Hinton (address in #84) is requested to send stand-by orders for Russia, in the event Tony misses again. See below.

AUSTRALIA (Edwards): F Cln-Ind S by F Jav, F Tas-New S by F Sam. Owns: Bri, Mel, Pth, Syd, Ind, New (6). Build 2.
 BRAZIL (McAfee): F Sao-Tri, F Tri-Crb, F Fal-Arg S by A Mat. Owns: Bah, Bel, Bra, Rio, Arg (5). Build 1.
 CHINA (Weinstock): F Sou S AUSTRALIAN F Cln-Ind, F Yel-Jap, A Sze-Vie S by A Cnt. Owns: Cnt, Chu, Nan, Pek, Vie (5). Build 1.
 EUROPE (Key): A Aus H, F Sax S RUSSIAN A Mos-Pol, F Azo-Ibe S by F Sar. Owns: Bon, Lon, Par, Rom, Aus, Ibe (6). Build 2.
 INDIA (Ricci): A Pak-Prs, A Bom-Pak, F Ben-Mld, F Mld-Som. Owns: Bom, Clc, Del, Mad, Pak (5). Build 1.
 NIGERIA (Sergeant): F Acc-Sen S by F Gha, A Bor S SOUTH AFRICAN A Uga-Zai, A Egy-Isr. Owns: Acc, Kin, Lag, Nla, Sen (5). Build 1.
 RUSSIA (Watson?): F Oms-Sib, F Jap S U.N.C. A Hon, A Mos-Pol, A Cau-Oms, A Bai-Man, A Bul-Tur. Owns: Len, Mos, Ode, Oms, Vla, Pol (6). No change.

SOUTH AFRICA (Lakofka): F Boe-Mes S by F Moz, A Zan-Eth, A Uga-Zai. Owns: Cap, Dur, Pre, Sal, Mes, Zai (6). Build 2.
 U.S.A. (Kerins): F Clf-Gal, F Los-Mex, F Yuc-Crb S by F Ber. Owns: Bos, Los, Sea, Was (4). No change.

WINTER 2001 ADJUSTMENTS are due on Friday, 27 February 1976. Tony Watson is requested to send a statement of intent to continue the game; failure to do so will count as a second missed deadline. Elmer Hinton will merely need to wait at this point, since Russia has no adjustments. U.N.C. armies still exist in: Col, Hon, Ira, Mec, Mex (5). Correction (1005 redmqqe2 SI) HINTS 2001. -Missiles!

PAOLI (A plot synopsis of Eric von Jünger's masterpiece, Notan at Blue-beard's Masked Ball). Act I, Scene 4 (Scene 2 can be found in UTOPIA XIX, Scene 2 in UTOPIA XXXVIII, and Scene 3 in THE DIPLOMAT Vol. I #63): The Monastery of Hornachuelos. Santa and her friends are busy spinning. Siebel gathers flowers for Marguerite and asks them to carry his message of love ("O Welche Lust!"). The flower-maidens dance enticingly about Parsifal and Siebel remarks that this is not exactly what he had in mind ("Nono Luigi--Luigi Nono").

Suddenly Siegfried runs on chasing a bear. The voice of the Prompter is heard mysteriously intoning the dire judgement that this is not Siegfried's scene. This infuriates Tamino, who pulls out his sword and shoots

Amahl, who was visiting the knights. Amahl slumps over on the poker table and dies, but not before bemoaning his first good hand of the evening ("L'Amore dei Tre Re"). Hot for revenge, Bernardo draws his pistol and stabs the conductor, bringing the scene to a sudden but effective conclusion.

MOSCOW (The Council Chamber of the Supreme Soviet): The twelve demons sat about the heavy table lit only by the dim light of candles.

"Well....," said the devil seated at the top of the table. His name was Mephistophiles and at the moment he was serving at the dubiously honored position of head of the demonic council.

"Yes. Well, what?" groaned a second demon, Mulciber, who looked slightly assinine with his horns protruding from below the hood of his parka.

"Damn these Russians and their scorched earth tactics! Sabotaging the power system in the face of a friendly demonic takeover..."

"Yes, it was rather humorous to see all those fat little bald guys scurrying off into the snow," smiled Thammutz, who was as handsome as a devil could be.

"Brrrrrr," said the devil called Beelzebub.

"Holy shit!" cried a fifth demon, one called Dagon, who possessed the torso and head of a man and the lower body of a fish. Due to this condition it was necessary that his lower half be suspended in a tub of water. For the third time that evening it had frozen solid. (Imagine how you would react if your bottom half were frozen; then you might more easily understand poor Dagon's outburst.)

"You must admit it is nice to be back on Earth. I mean, after all those eons..." sighed Thammutz, his long lashes flickering.

"Oh, hush, you slobbering fool!" interjected Belial. "It's too damned cold!"

"Yeah, cold as Hell," mumbled the monstrous and muscular Moloch, not even aware of his sick joke.

"Brrrrrr," said Beelzebub.

"I, for one," screamed Mulciber, who jumped up to emphasize his point (an action which only served to emphasize how stupid he looked in his parka), "would like to know what the hell is going on!"

"All I know," replied Mephistophiles, once again cursing the fact that he had to be in charge, "is that we are supposed to await orders from On Low."

"Orders concerning what?"

"Why, being here in the Upperworld and raising a little Hell."

"Brrrrrrrrrr," said Beelzebub.

DO NOT FORGET THAT WINTER 2001 ADJUSTMENTS WILL INCLUDE THE BUILDING OF MISSILES, IF YOU WISH THEM. EVEN PLAYERS WHO HAVE NO OTHER ADJUSTMENTS WILL HAVE TO ORDER THE CONSTRUCTION OF MS IF THEY WANT THEM BUILT. THE BUILDING OF MISSILES IS NOT AUTOMATIC.

NEW KNOSSOS, CRETE (12 September 2001): The contracting firm of Glubdrubb & Flimflamglycz, whose headquarters have been located in the capital of the Archaic Autochthonous Republic of Crete for several years, today issued a written denial that they were supplying nuclear breeder reactors to any of the Great Powers (contrary to the U.N. Nuclear Control Act of 1989).

Sir John Wellington Welles, Director of the corporation's Alchemy Division, issued the statement. "It is not necessary to indulge in such flummery," he continued. "We have of course devised a method of transmuting lead directly to U-235. This technique was devised by our Chief Researcher, Dr. Gerhard Faust, whose near-miss last year, discovering how to turn sows' ears into satin purses, has given us great hope in many research areas."

THE DIPLOMAT

#87

ATOMIC WARS ARE NOT OF THE SLOWEST KIND, SO IT IS QUITE WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF REASON TO SUPPOSE THAT THE THIRD WORLD WAR LASTED ONLY ABOUT EIGHTEEN MONTHS...

28 February 1976

Volume III Number 6

THE DIPLOMAT was founded by Eric Just in 1967. Since January 1975 it has been edited and published by Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024 (telephone [714] 753-7657). Subscriptions are as indicated last issue. Game-fees ditto. This is Alcala Publication #648.

Players are reminded that they are supposed to be familiar with the House Rules. Orders are to be submitted on one side of the paper only (I will take material relating to one game only on both sides, however). If you put one game one one/side of the sheet and one game on the other, the only orders that will get printed are those on the side I see first. This rule is to make filing easier for me and if you run afoul of it, don't tell me you weren't warned.

Short Winter deadlines are common in my games. The Rulebook forbids Diplomacy prior to Winter adjustments, so I do not usually allow any more time than return mail requires. One player points out that this in effect obviates HR 11C with respect to Winter, which is true. I may need to allow longer deadlines in the future.

1975 IP

WICKED WITCHES BUILD FLEETS, AUTOCRACIES BUILD ARMIES, AUSTRIA BUILDS ZILCH

Winter 1901: Despite Jeff Key's missed builds, he has never dropped from a postal game in his life, to my knowledge, so I am not asking for stand-by orders. And I have general orders for the other game.... In the position listings below, builds are mared *.

AUSTRIA (Key): NMR. A Tri, F Gre, A Ser (3). Two short.

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Lpl*, F Nwy, F Nth, A Lon (4).

FRANCE (McAfee): A Mir, A Pic, F Eng (3).

GERMANY (Edwards): A Kie*, A Mun*, A Den, A Bur, F Hol (5).

ITALY (Weinstock): F Ion, A Tus, A Ven (3).

RUSSIA (Kerins): A War *, A StP*, A Rum, A Ukr, F Swe, F Sev (6).

TURKEY (Ricci): F Smy*, F Con, A Bul, A Arm (4).

SPRING 1902 ORDERS are due on Friday, 26 March 1976.

2001

(1975BMgz)

NUCLEAR REARMAMENT SWEEPS WORLD; DRAFT QUOTAS FILLED TO OVERFLOWING

Winter 2001. Tony Watson wishes to resign. Accordingly, Elmer Hinton (address in #84) now plays Russia. In the position lists below, builds are indicated *. In F01, BRAZIL: F Sao-Tri failed, of course.

AUSTRALIA (Edwards): F Bri*, F Pth*, F Ind, F Jav, F New, F Sam, 6M*.

BRAZIL (McAfee): F Rio*, F Tri, F Sao, F Arg, A Mat (5), 5M*.

CHINA (Weinstock): A Pek*, F Sou, F Yel, A Vie, A Cnt (5), 5M*.

EUROPE (Key by GOs): F Lon*, A Aus, F Sax, F Ibe, F Sar (5--1 short), 6M*.

INDIA (Ricci): F Mad*, A Prs, A Pak, F Mld, F Som (5), 5M*. Move capital

to Bombay (effective W02).

NIGERIA (Sergeant): A Niu*, F Sen, F Ghu, A Bor, A Iar (5), 5M*.

RUSSIA (Hinton): F Sib, F Jap, A Pol, A Oms, A Man, A Tur (6), 6M*.

SOU.AF. (Lakofka): F Cap*, F Pre*, F Mgs, F Moz, A Eth, A Zai (6), 6M*.

U.S.A. (Kerins): F Gal, F Los, F Crb, F Ber (4), 4M*.

SPRING 2002 ORDERS are due on Friday, 26 March 1976.

1. (Weinstock): Can Ms be used against UNC units? Yes.

2. (Weinstock): Once MG are used, your "stockpile" is diminished by

that number of Ms, n'est pas? Mais, oui.

3.(Edwards): If I don't build Ms, can I put the points in a bank to lend to other people or to build Ms later on? No. You can combine your Ms with others in a single attack, so you don't need to lend them. Ms last until destroyed, captured, or used, so you don't need to stockpile "points" when you can stockpile Ms. [Let me add, too, that M attacks are in no way "secret". Launcher and target are printed. The reason is obvious: Even today, missile launches are not secret, and are detected by any number of ground and orbital sensors. Every Great Power in 2001 will have a wide variety of "spy" devices and will be able to detect instantly the launching and trajectory of any missiles.]

4. (Anonymous by request): "If a U.N.C. [army] is missed by 5 and then attacked by 2 separate one-on-one attacks, is it disbanded? No. The two attacks stand each other off. Diplomacy Rulebook, IX.5. "2001" Rules, VIII.C.1: "...it may be dislodged by a single, unsupported attack." (emphasis added) In a stand-off situation, the defending army is obviously not dislodged. 5M attack or no.

GENEVA (U.I.): The war takes definitive shape. North and South America are locked against each other for a while. Nigeria's greatest danger was that he would lose Zaire to South Africa and be squeezed out quickly by an unstoppable South African onslaught, so he gave Zaire away. Scratch Nigeria. India is attacked by South Africa, Nigeria, and Russia. He can defend Mecca and Iraq a long time but must eventually succumb. China helped Australia advance on China with the Russians coming from the north. Scratch India and China. Europe gave up a fantastic opportunity to take both Poland and Austria for 3 builds. He would have been odds-on to win. Russia would be disorganized beyond retaliation and China would be free to defend against Australia, who has no problems and is hard to reach to attack. Australia to win with old-pros Lakofka and Key to beat their neighbors, then try and catch Australia. [In case anybody missed the dateline, this is supposed to be anonymous.]

BARAD CREST (A plot synopsis of Eric von Just's masterpiece, Wotan at Bluebeard's Masked Ball.) ACT I, SCENE 5: The curtain rises on an empty stage. The voice of the Prompter comes from the depths, "Psst...Siegfried...now!" After an interminable orchestral introduction, nothing happens. Rudolfo Bingo can be heard off-stage, pounding on a door and cursing in Albanian (at least, it sounds like cursing). Eventually, a bear runs across the stage. He is not pursued by Siegfried, but by Kelderek and a couple of bedraggled priestesses (Norma and Adelgisa, apparently). The curtain comes crashing down as the bear attempts to eat the conductor.

NEW KNOSSOS, CRETE (28 December 2001): Graf Alberich von Sauron, Head of the Jewelry Division of Glubdrubb & Flimflamglycz, today announced a new line of rings being offered through his office. "These stunning little items," he stated, "are available only to Heads of State. We have nine of them in stock, so first-come, first-served." To one reporter, admiring the ring Graf von Sauron wore on his own hand, he commented, "Well, this is something like our new Head-of-State line." Then he added, very quickly, "But they're (much more attractive) than I tried to justify by making I made."

[30] Noted several James Earl Ray
in EREHNON Game fee is \$250.

THE #88
DIPLOMAT

BELLA VITA MILITAR! OGNI DI SI CAMBIA LOCO;
OGGI MOLTO, DOMAN POCO; ORA IN TERRA ED OR SUL MAR.
IL FRACOR DI PROMBE E PIFFERI, LO SPARAR DI SCHIOPPI E BOMBE
FORZA ACCRESCE AL BRACCIO E ALL'ANIMA VAGA SOL DI TRIONFAR.

5 April 1976

Volume III Number 7

THE DIPLOMAT was founded by Eric Just in 1967. Since January 1975 it has been edited and published by Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024 (telephone 714-753-7657). Subscriptions are 10/\$1, sent in batches of 2 or more. There are no game openings and our current stand-by players know what's what. This is Alcala Publication #652.

INCASEYOUHAVENTSEENONEBEFORETHISISALINEARSEPARATORTHEYARESUPPOSEDTODETERRIECLYCLETERBUT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Jeff Key is now living at: 6600 NW Valley Dr., Kansas City MO 64152. His phone number is unchanged.
2. Players are reminded of the contest involving our masthead quotations. See issue #85 for details. I have had no entries yet.
3. Players are reminded that I will not accept any orders which:
 - a. Arrive by Special Delivery.
 - b. Are telephoned to me after 10 p.m., Pacific time.
 - c. Are telephoned to me on the day of the deadline.
4. Order Forms. Enclosed (if you are a player) please find a printed form for submission of your orders. This will help standardize things and greatly help with my filing. Changes of orders can and should be submitted on this form also. I have enclosed a few sheets with this issue. I will send a sheet or two with each issue of THE DIPLOMAT.
5. Press. I am going to head off a potential problem. THE DIPLOMAT, like EREMI-WON, was always noted for its humorous and light approach to the hobby. In both 'zines humorous press got preference, assuming it's worth printing at all. Serious press is OK, if it's interesting reading (and 95% of what's printed in the hobby today isn't). Now, last issue I printed an anonymous game review for "2001". It was, obviously, by one of the players. Now I've got another one by another player. If this goes on, I can foresee a situation in which I will be obligated to print every such analysis which comes in, since otherwise I will be giving undue advantage to those players whose analyses I do print. Not wanting to be in that position, I am not going to print game analyses by players, period. Which if fine by me. I printed Eric Just's analysis of 1975IP because it was funny as hell, and if anybody wants to do something in a similar vein, I'd be glad to have it. Strictly speaking, however, a game analysis should be done by an outside observer, as with the demo games in DIPLOMACY WORLD. Those games are not demo games. I'm happy to have press...however, it is essential that what you send me does not put me to sleep while I'm typing it.
6. Two regular games are open in EREMI-WON for a flat fee of \$8.50 per slot (with country preference list, of course).

WELLTHESELINEARSEPARATORTWILLPROBABLYBEASDULLASTHELASTONEINFACITSHARDLYWORTHYPINGITBUT

1975 IP

ITALY, RUSSIA, & TURKEY ATTACK AUSTRIA; HUNS MARCH INTO MARSEILLES; B.E.P. IN BELGIUM.

Spring 1902:

See next page.

AUSTRIA (Key): A Tri-Bud, F Gro-Bul(sc) /r//Alb, d/, A Ser-Bud.
 ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Lpl-Tri, F Hwy-Eth, F Pth-Pol, A Lon H.
 FRANCE (McAffee): A Mar-Gas, A Pld /h/, F Eng-Mid.
 GERMANY (Edwards): A Rio-Puh, A Hun-Bur, A Den-Nio, A Bur-Mar, F Hol-Hol.
 ITALY (Weinstock): F Lon S TURKISH A Bul-Gro, A Tas-Ven, A Ven-Tel.
 RUSSIA (Korins): A Mar-Gal, A Ser-Kur, A Hun-Bud, A Ukr-Rum S by F Sov, F Swe-New
 TURKEY (Ricci): F Smy-Aeg, F Con-Bla, A Bul-Gro, A Ann E.

FALL 1902 ORDERS are due on Friday, 28 April 1976. Note probable Austrian retreat:

2001
 (1975Egg)

SINO-EUROPEAN ATTACKS ROCK SOVIET DEFENSES; SOUTH AFRICA, INDIA AT WAR; SIBERIA NUKED!

Spring 2002: The Indian capital is moving to Bombay, off. 202. Current nuke stockpiles are indicated after all orders in parentheses.

AUSTRALIA (Edwards): F Bri-Clm, F Pth-Mov, F Ind-Sen, F Jav-Mld, F Mex-Dra, F Sam-Bik (6M).

BRAZIL (McAffee): F Rio-Ang, F Tri-Gui, F Sao-Tri, F Ang-Por, A Hat-Ana (5M).

CHINA (Weinstock): A Pck-Man, F Sou-Clm S by F Yol, A Vie-Gro, A Cnt-Han, 5M-Sib.(OM).

EUROPE (Key): F Lon-Sax, F Sax-Pol S by A Aus, F Ibo-Sar, F Sar-Ion. (5M).

INDIA (Ricci): F Mad-Pon S by F Mld, A Pas-Ara, A Pak-Pas, F Son-Eth /r//Rou, d/ (5M).

NIGERIA (Sergeant): A Nia-Sah, F Sen-Mli, F Gha-Roc, A Ber-Egy, A Isr-Mec (5M).

RUSSIA (Hinton): F Sib-Orh /hit by 5M/, F Jap-Yol, A Pol H /r//Len, d/, A Oms-Mos, A Nan E, A Tur-Bul (6M).

SOUTH AFRICA (Lakofka): F Cap-Bou, F Pre-Zen, F Moz-Som S by F Ngs, A Eth S NIGERIAN A Isr-Mec, A Zai-Sud. (6M).

U.S.A. (Korins): F Los H, F Grb-Col(nc) S by F Gal, F Por-Tri

(U.N.C.: A Col /h//d/, A Hon /h/, A Ita /h/, A Mac /h/, A Mex /h/.)

FALL 2002 ORDERS are due on Friday, 28 April 1976.

PEKING (no date): The aging Chairman (108 years old) would like to inform the world that he no longer believes that nations should stockpile nuclear armaments. Therefore, in an effort to lessen world tension, the entire stockpile of Chinese A-Bombs has been detonated in a remote area of Siberia. The Chairman urges fellow world leaders to follow his example and perhaps detonate their stockpiles in other remote areas of Russia; for instance, Vladivostok.

ATHENS (via Moscow)(13 February 2002): The events of the past few months in Russia have been topped off by the new leader's speech. The former underground rebel leader told reporters his side of the coup.

It began last September with demonstrations and riots which paralyzed the Soviet fighting machine. After bitter fighting and the first winter snows the rebels seemed to quiet down, but that was just the quiet before the storm. The government was unable to cope with the mounting insurrection until, little more than a month ago, the Kremlin was stormed and the Supreme Soviet captured when Moscow was lost; thereafter the Soviet forces broke up.

After claiming leadership, this unknown hero proceeded to extend his organization over all previously Soviet holdings. He stated for newsmen: "Communism conflicts with imperialism and always has. Therefore, I abolish communism, as it conflicts with my future plans for the great Russian Empire. I now proclaim unity among all the Russians, and will do to my utmost capacity whatever needs to be done in my post as Tsar of All the Russias."

NEW KNOSSOS, CRETE (14 February 2002): Dmitri Flimflamovitch Borshcht, Patriarch of Moscow (in Exile) left today for Russia. "My Tsarrrrr needs me!" he exclaimed to members of the community of Slavic exiles who saw him off. "God shall rrrrestorrre Orthodoxy." Those who knew Dmitri Flimflamovitch were not too sure of that....

THE DIPLOMAT

89

WAS DU BIST,
BIST DU NUR DURCH VERTRÄGE;
BEDINGEN IST,
WOHL BEDACHT DEINE MACHT.

23 May 1976

Is anybody going to enter the contest?

Volume III Number 8

THE DIPLOMAT, founded by Eric Just in 1967, has now been left to the tender mercies of Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024. This is Alcala Publication #656, edited and published by the same. Subscription information may be found in the last issue.

Announcements

1. Jeff Key's correct address is 6600 Valley View Dr., Kansas City MO 64152. Would you believe last month I had two people move to a "Valley View Drive", in different cities, and I sent mail to "Valley Drive" on both of them? Shit.

2. Several of you have run afoul of Rule IX.1, on writing support orders. Incorrectly written support orders fail, guys. If you are ordering A Ber-Pru, and want A Sil to support that move, it is not enough to write "A Sil S A Ber". That's an order supporting A Ber in holding. Since it was ordered to move, the support order is invalid.

3. I must repeat that I will under no circumstances whatsoever accept orders for one player being submitted by another player. Even if I have every reason to believe the whole thing is legitimate, I won't do it, and I don't know of a single active GM who would. I am stretching the point almost to breaking when, in HR 13, I allow third-party orders.

4. There is no need to submit retreats in advance. I never take "prophetic" orders of that sort. If you do send such things in, and I receive no change by the next deadline, I'll use them; but it's extra work for both you and me, so I don't encourage that practice.

5. Yes, I know this issue is late. I have lots of good reasons: my typewriter spent a week in the repair shop (it hasn't been cleaned in six years); I was down two weeks with the flu; our kennel overfloweth; I am trying to finish two novellas and five short stories. I am generally behind on everything.

6. Robyn Edwards is resigning. The next replacement up is Charles Bell, who has not responded to stand-by requests elsewhere. I am not sure why this is; I am hoping the particularly icky position involved had something to do with it. However, I am going to ask Dave Scott to act as back-up in this instance. Relevant addresses: //90046.

Charles Bell, Antioch College/West, 1067 N. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles CA
David Scott, 973 Ninth St., #54, Albany CA 94710.

If Bell gets orders in for the positions, he's the replacement; if not, Scott takes over.

1975 IP

AUSTRIA AND FRANCE SURVIVE... EVERYBODY ELSE BLOATS BY ONE.

Fall 1902: (In Summer 1902, AUSTRIA's F Gre R-Alb.)

AUSTRIA, (Key): A Tri pray S by A Ser, F Alb-Adr. Owns: ~~Ad~~, Tri, Vie, ~~Gr~~, Ser (3). No change (2 nb).

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Iri-Mld, F Nth-Eng S by F Bel, A Lon-Wal. Owns: Edi, Lpl, Lon, Nwy, Bel (5). Build 1.

FRANCE (McAfee): A Gas S F Mid /imp//otm//r//Par, Bre, d/, A Pic-Bur, F Mid-Spa(sc). Owns: Bre, War, Par, Spa (4). No change.

GERMANY (Edwards): A Ruh-Bur, A Bur-Gas S by A Mar, A Kie-Den, F Hel-Den. Owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Mol, Mar (6). Build 1. (Resigns)

ITALY (Weinstock): F Ion-Tun, A Ven-Tri S by A Tri. Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun (4). Build 1.

RUSSIA (Kerins): A Gal-Bud S by A Rum, A StP-Mos, A Ukr S F Sev, F Sev S A Rum, F Swe H. Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Rum, Swe, Bud (7). Build 1.

TURKEY (Ricci): F Aer-Gre, A Gre-Bul, A Arm-Sev S by F Bla. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre (5). Build 1.

WINTER 1902 BUILDS are due on Monday, 7 June 1976. Builds may of course be conditional upon the direction of the French retreat. France may of course elect not to retreat A Gas, in which case France may build one unit. Builds may also be made conditional on whom submits the German build, Bell or Scott.

2001
(1975BMgz)

NUCLEAR EXCHANGES CONTINUE; CENTRAL EUROPE HARD-HIT. EUROPE BLESSED BY NIGERIA, USSR. U.N.C. UNITS HOLD OUT IN JAPAN, CENTRAL AMERICA. SOUTH AFRICA AND AUSTRALIA ATTACK BRAZIL.

Fall 2002: Players should remember that M attacks below 5 have no effect. In Summer 2002, the INDIAN F Som R-Réu; RUSSIAN A Pol R -Len.

AUSTRALIA (Edwards): F Bri-Cln S by F Bik, F How-Jav, F Jav-Ben S by F Ind, F Dra-Arg. Owns: Bri, Mel, Pth, Syd, Ind, New (6). No change. Has 6 M. Resigns.

BRAZIL (McAfee): F Gui-Col(nc), F Sao-Fal S by F Arg, F Per & A Ama S F Gui/otm/. 5M-Gal. Has 0 M. Owns: Bah, Bel, Bra, Rio, Arg (5). NC.

CHINA (Weinstock): A Pek-Man S by F Yel, F Sou-Nan, A Sze-Bur, A Nan-Kan. Has 0 M. Owns: Cnt, Chu, Nan, Pek, Vie (5). No change.

EUROPE (Key): F Sax-Lon, F Pol-Sax /r//Sax, Bal, d/, A Aus H /r//Ser, Swi, Bon, Sax, d/, F Sar-Ibe, F Ion-Sar. Has 6 M. Owns: Bon, Lon, Par, Rom, Aus, Ibe (5). No change (1 nb).

INDIA (Ricci): F Mld-Ben S by F Mad, A Ara-Ira S by A Prs, F Réu-Mld /r//Ork, Ant, d/. Has 5M. Orders removal of capital to Delhi. Since it is already in Delhi (due to move to Bombay next season), this order has the effect of cancelling the previous order. The capital thus remains in Delhi and will not move to Bombay. Owns: Bom, Clc, Del, Mad, Pak, Ira (6). Build 1.

NIGERIA (Sergeant): A Sah-Mor S by A Egy, F Mli-Azo S by F Asc, A Isr-Mec. 5M-Pol. Has 0 M. Owns: Acc, Kin, Lag, Nia, Sen, Mec (6). Build 1.

RUSSIA (Hinton): F Sib-Vla, F Jap-Hon, A Len-Pol S by A Mos, A Man-Kan /r//Mon, Bai, Kor, d/, A Bul-Aus. 5M-Aus. Has 1 M. Owns: Len, Mos, Ode, Oms, Vla, Pol, Aus (7). Build 1.

SOUTH AFRICA (Lakofka): F Bou-Fal, F Zan-Som, F Som-Ara, F Mgs-Réu, A Eth S NIGERIAN A Isr-Mec, A Sud-Isr. 5M-Réu. Has 1 M. Owns: Cap, Dur, Pre, Sal, Mgs, Zai (6). No change.

UNITED STATES (Kerins): F Los-Mex(wc), F Col(nc) H S by F Gal, F Ber-Tri. 4M-Mex. Has 0 M. Owns: Bos, Los, Sea, Was, Col (5). Build 1.

UNITED NATIONS. A Hon & A Mex /h/. A Ira and A Mec /d/.

Winter 2002 orders are due on Monday, 7 June 1976. Orders may be made conditional on the direction of the various retreats. The Powers having retreats may of course choose to disband the dislodged unit(s). In each such instance, a new unit may be built. Remember that all players must submit orders, even if they have no retreats or builds, if they wish to construct the Missiles to which they are entitled.

My ruling on the Indian order could have gone either way. I could have ruled that the capital would go to Bombay in W02 and back to Delhi in F03. However, it seems to me that the real effect of the Indian order is to cancel the first capital movement. (He could, however, have ordered a move to Calcutta this season, even though the capital would move to Bombay next season.)

Players may also make their orders conditional on whom takes over the Australian position, Bell or Scott.

CAPETOWN: Some have asked why I am supporting the Nigerians to the Holy City. Like all Africans the Niberians only want to be completely Meccanized.

BARAD CREST: moannnn,...

JEHOL [which is in Manchuria on the map, in case you were wondering] (INS)(31 October 2002): Observed by INS bug planted in the Tsar's quarters:

The Tsar paced around the room anxiously awaiting news from the front. As he paced he nervously pulled at his beard. Two bodyguards waited just inside the chamber door. One looked over at the other. "Now, there's something you don't see every day, Dimitri."

"What's that, Gregor?"

"A Czar pulling his beard out by the roots."

"Oh, I don't know. He used to pull his hair out by the roots until his mother shaved his head."

"God. What if she shaves his beard...?"

"You'll get used to it, Gregor. At least this is better than biting his nails."

Gregor was aghast. "You mean to say the Czar used to bit his finger-nails?"

"Don't be silly. His toenails." (Gregor wondered what kind of mad-man we was working for. Why, Gregor, is there more than one kind?) Dimitri continued, "When you've been here as long as I have you'll be used to the Nameless Nut." He nodded in the Tsar's direction. "Besides, that's Tsar, not Czar." [Editor's note: That's a purely visual distinction. "czar" is the Polish transliteration of the Russian word; in Polish orthography, "cz" is the equivalent of "ts".]

Gregor was puzzled momentarily. "For me it is. I am of Polish ascent."

"That's descent."

"That's what you think."

Suddenly a messenger burst in wearing the unmistakable bright gray and off white uniform of "Eastern Union". He handed the Tsar an envelope, which the latter immediately tore open. Moments after Dimitri handed him the scotch tape, he read the missive and cried out, "Heavens to Stalin, never has such a disaster befallen us. This is TERRIBLE!" He handed the guards his note.

"No!" Dimitri exclaimed. "The Chinese have started a nuclear war!"

"Oh, that's not so terrible," the Tsar said.

"Europe has taken over Poland," Gregor cried.

"That's not that bad either," the Tsar said.

"Then what?"

"China! THEY'VE BLOWN UP MY SUMMER PALACE!!!" He replied. He stalked about the room, and finding his sword in an umbrella stand, raised it, charging the door. "I will make those dirty anti-imperialist dogs pay for this! I will winter in Peking!"

Gregor shook his head worriedly. "You don't think he would be foolish enough to attack China now?"

"I wouldn't be surprised if he attacked them all alone, right now."

"But doesn't he realize how rash and empty a threat that is? Winter in Peking?"

Dimitri chuckled, as they followed the nameless hero. "He didn't say which winter."

MOSCOW (Alcala Press)(5 November 2002): Patriarch Dmitri Flimflam-ovitch Borshcht lost no time in having himself installed as Regent and installing himself in the Kremlin. He saw to it that a bevy of nubile maidens was installed in comfortable quarters in the Cathedral of the Annunciation. "Personal attendants to His Grace," explained Borshcht's Press Secretary to a question Vladimir Spasebo, President of the Duma.

After a considerable period of seclusion...during which war rationing of a long list of items was announced (including caviar, champagne, chocolate, bacon, coffee...)...His Grace condescended to attend a small press conference.

"How long before the Tsar returns to the capital?" asked Pyotr Kvass, reporter from Pravda.

"With any luck, the Nameless Botch already permanently resides in a Peking dungeon."

Yevgeniy Kulak, from Izvestiya, raised his hand. "Do all those girls really just darn your socks and phost-write your speeches?"

The Regent twitched his beard several times. "Look, Kovaritch, sometimes it's not too healthy to be inquisitive. Besides, it could be a lot worse...you know...sheep...gnoles..."

"How," asked Zoltán Karpáthy of the Times, "are your trade relations with the gnoles?"

"Well, it's my understanding that we're selling them one hell of a lot of rope. The chief problem is that every time we send them a shipment, our salesman doesn't come back. We are of course trying to get the gnoles interested in China."

More Ramblings

7. A regular game is still open in EREHWON. The game fee is \$8.50. EREHWON #97 is coming out this week. This fall will see #100, my Tenth Anniversary Issue, which will probably be triple-size. It will feature articles by Allan Calhaver, Don Horton, Len Lakofka, and other luminaries of the hobby. A subscription is 5/\$1.

8. DinkiCon III will be in Holmby Park, in L.A., as usual. It will be on 22 August 1976. I'll be there, of course. Anybody who is interested in going, and needs details, should let me know.

9. DipCon IX will be in conjunction with Origins II, this July, in Baltimore. I guess everyone knows that. If you can go, don't miss it. I only wish I had the time. And money.

10. I will be staying up until midnight to get this dog out. Aren't you impressed? Feel a little sympathy? Oh, well....

Volume III Number 9

[illegible]

2. Elmer Hinton and I have been exchanging words on the contest. Remember the contest? I haven't had an entry on it (other than one correct one from Eric Just who is getting this rag for free anyway) yet. Elmer thought the quotations I'm using are too difficult, even if he could translate them. I could not say very much to him without saying very much to you-all, so you should note that most (but not all) of these items are in a foreign language. That means something. Actually, finding the sources and the quotes themselves are usually pretty easy, once you realize what medium I'm taking them from. (That does not apply to #89's quote, however; it is from a work I've seen only two copies of in this country, one in my own collection and one in a very large bookstore. I don't know of a single library that has it, although I'm sure there are some.) Anyway, if you use your head, I'll bet you can locate a few of those. These are not in fact obscure references at all; they are world-famous.

1975 IP

AUSTRIA (Key): No change. Has: A Tri, A Ser, F Adr (3).
ENGLAND (Lukofka): F Lon*, F Mid, F Eng, F Bel, A Wal (5).
FRANCE (McAfee?): F Gas /d/. NBR. Has: A Pic, F Spa(sc) (2), 1 short.
GERMANY (Scott): A Mun*, A Ruh, A Gas, A Mar, A Kie, F Hel (6).
ITALY (Weinstock): F Nap*, F Tun, A Ven, A Trl (4).
RUSSIA (Kerins): A War*, A Bud, A Rum, A Mos, A Ukr, F Sev, F Swe (7).
TURKEY (Ricci): F Con*, F Gre, A Bul, A Arm, F Bla (5).

SPRING 1903 orders are due on Friday, 2 July 1976.

2001
(1975BMgz)

LEADERLESS EUROPE DECIMATED BY NUCLEAR FALLOUT; MILITARY COUP IN BRAZIL?
See page 2

Winter 2002: We had some errors in Spring 2002 which I failed to print (although all the players were notified by carbon copy). Corrected orders were:

CHINA: F Sou-Cln S by F Yel.
 RUSSIA: F Jap-Yel.
 U.S.A.: F Ber-Tri (4M). [added]

In Fall 2002 we had only one small error: The retreating Indian F R  u could retreat to Boe. This the Indian player noted.

The Autumn 2002 retreats were as follows:

EUROPE (Key?): NRR: F Pol /d/, A Aus /d/.

INDIA (Ricci): F R  u R-Boe.

RUSSIA (Hinton): A Man R-Mon.

And the builds come next. In the position lists, builds are marked *.

AUSTRALIA (Scott): F Cln, F Bik, F How, F Jav, F Ind, F Dra (6), 6M plus 6M*.

BRAZIL (McAfee?): F Gui, F Sao, F Arg, F Per, A Ama (5), OM. NMR.

CHINA (Weinstock): A Man, F Yel, F Sou, A Bur, A Nan (5), OM plus 5M*.

EUROPE (Key?): NBR. F Lon, F Ibe, F Sar (3) [2 short], 6M.

INDIA (Ricci): F Cln*, F Mld, F Mad, A Ira, A Prs, F Boe (6), 5M plus 6M*.

NIGERIA (Sergeant): F Acc*, A Mor, A Egy, F Azo, F Asc, A Mec (6), 5M plus 6M*.

RUSSIA (Hinton): A Oms*, F Vla, F Jap, A Pol, A Mos, A Mon, A Aus (7), 1M plus 7M*.

SOUTH AFRICA (Lakofka): F Bou, F Som, F Ara, F R  u, A Eth, A Isr (6), 1M plus 6M.

USA (Kerins): F Was*, F Los, F Col(nc), F Gal, F Tri (5), OM plus 5M.

SPRING 2003 orders are due on Friday, 2 July 1976.

See 1975IP. Stand-by orders for Brazil are requested from Jim Ronson.

I also have a ream of press from Elmer Hinton. Since this issue is going to be restricted to one sheet of paper, most of it will have to be postponed to nextish. However, don't let me keep you from one scintillating syllable....

TSAGAN ULA (22 December 2002): The mysterious Tsar sat, trembling with rage, in his marble throne, newspapers strewn at his feet. As he gazed at a far corner of the ceiling he mulled over exquisite tortures. Dimitri stiffly guarded the chamber door. Even he had broken out in a cold sweat over the events of the past days. The fighting had been fierce as the division pushed its way into Mongolia. News was only recently catching up with the Tsar. The Anonymous Liberator had gone into a catatonic rage when first informed that a pretender to the throne had usurped the post of Regent in his absence. Now he sat and mumbled while waiting for replies from his ministers in Moscow. "Nameless Botch, eh?" he mumbled. "Peking dungeon, eh? Grrrrrrrr...."

Gregor slipped quietly into the room with the replies. He was fixed by a cold stare. "WELL?" the Tsar cried shrilly.

"It seems the man is one of those soviet exiles you allowed to return to their homeland, oh generous excellency," Gregor shoot visibly. The Tsar had grown increasingly unpredictable of late...which a number of unfortunate men, whose buttons were not shining in the after-battle inspection, had discovered. (They were all outside busily washing the parade ground with Q-Tips.)

[TO BE CONTINUED NEXTISH.]

*30-

O VINTI, IL CAPO A TERRA!
IL VINCITOR SON IO.
BEN L'HO CHIAMATO IN GUERRA,
MA VENNE IL VOSTRO DIO?

Volume III No. 10

THIS LINEAR SEPARATOR IS BROUGHT TO YOU COURTESY OF YOUR LOCAL GAY BRIDGE CLUB WHERE YOU CAN ALWAYS PICK UP TRICK SOOOOOO HAD DOUBLE LINEAR SEPARATOR YET HOW EASY CAN YOU GET YET

1. It appears that I am going to need some more stand-by players and I don't have any at the moment. Does anyone know of somebody who would like to stand-by for either or both of the games?

[illegible]

1975. IP

Spring 1903: McAffee is dropped; Jim Ronson is now France.

F Gre-Ion.

FRANCE (~~Heath~~) (Ronson): A Pic-Bre, F Spa(sc)-Mid.

ITALY (Weinstock): F Nap-Tyn, F Tun-Wes, A Ven MS A Trl.

RUSSIA (Kerins): A War-Gal, A Bud-Vie, A Rum S AUSTRIAN A Ser-Bul.

/nso//d/, A Mos-StP, A Ukr S A Rum, F Sev S A Rum, F Swe-Nwry.

TURKEY (Ricci): F Con-Aeg, F Gre-Ion, A Bul-Rum S by F Bla, A Arm-Ser

FALL 1903 ORDERS will be due on Friday, 30 July 1976. No press.

2001

Hang on to yer tush,
honey - it's gettin' rough!

(1975BMgz)

NUKES STAY HOME FOR A CHANGE. VULTURES CLOSE IN ON BRAZIL AS GENERALISSIMO
RONSONI TRIES PETER PAN ATTACK IN PACIFIC. SOVIET & NIGERIAN FORCES MENACE
WESTERN EUROPE. RUSSKIES WHOOP IT UP IN ANCIENT (1940s) CAPITAL OF CHINA.
SOUTH AFRICAN FLEET ANNIHILATED NEAR QATAR. GM REVEALS ACCOUNTING ERROR.

Spring 2003: In W02 I reported that Nigeria had 5 M and built 6 more. Error, error, tilt! Thos 5M had already been used. Nigeria has 6M total. Bill McAfee is dropped for failure to submit orders a second time. Jim

Ronson now plays Brazil. Bob Sergeant feels he wishes to resign, owing to time problems, but has volunteered to continue play until I find a replacement. Which is nice, since I don't have one at the moment. We'll try to get one, Bob.

AUSTRALIA (Scott): F Cln-Hon S by F Bik, F How-Réu, F Jay-Mld, F Ind-Cln, F Dra-Fal. Has 12M.

BRAZIL (~~McAfee~~)(Ronson): F Gui-Crb, F Sao-Tri, F Arg-Chi, F Per-Clf /imp/, A Ama-Per. Has 0M.

CHINA (Weinstock): A Man-Pek, F Yel-Cln, A Bur-Mly, A Nan-Ind C by F Sou. Has 5M.

EUROPE (Key): F Ibe-Par S by F Lon, F Sar-Ibe. Has 6 M.

INDIA (Ricci): F Cln-Ben S by F Mad, F Mld-Ara S by A Ira & A Prs, F Boe-Moz. Has 11M.

NIGERIA (Sergeant): F Acc-Gha, A Mor-Ibe, A Egy-Isr S by A Mec, F Azo-Nth, F Asc-Azo. Has 6M.

RUSSIA (Hinton): A Oms-Bai, F Vla H, F Jap-Yel, A Pol-Sax, A Mos-Aus, A Mon-Chu, A Aus-Ser. Has 8M.

SOUTH AFRICA (Lakofka): F Bou-Fal, F Réu-Mld S by F Som & F Ara (F Ara /d/), A Eth-Zan, A Isr-Tur. Has 7M.

USA (Kerins): F Was-Ber, F Los H, F Col(nc)-Gui, F Gal-Chi, F Tri-Nat Has 5M.

UNC: A Hon /h/ /d/, A Mex /h/.

FALL 2003 ORDERS are due on Friday, 30 July 1976.

TSAGAN ULA (22 December 2002)[Continued from lastish];

"A traitor from the outside! I KNEW it! My enemies have sent spies in to undermine my authority." Jumping up from his throne, the Tsar began pacing.

"I am afraid," Gregor said, "that is not all. He issued this."

The Tsar snatched the paper. His eyes widened and an evil light shone there, as his face grew livid. He let out a sudden piercing scream! Dimitri was startled, and Gregor more so; the latter sat on the floor to pull his boots back on. "War rationing!" The Tsar stepped over to Gregor. "Who would dare?"

"N-No one, Kind Highness. The Minister didn't dare implement it without your authorization, but...." Gregor flinched at a thought.

"But the scoundrel regent has lined his pockets in the meantime, yes?" Gregor nodded. The nameless Leader looked to his other faithful guard.

"Dimitri! Ready my plane. We fly to Moscow!"

MOSKVA (6 January 2003)(Butler Press): Dmitri Flimflamovitch Borshcht, Patriarch of Moskva and Autocrat-Regent of All the Russias and Then Some, scratched his chin. His beard (obligatory with the office of Patriarch) was a bother. Luckily, it hadn't hurt his luck with the girls. Or boys. Or...well, we all know how Russians are, do we not, Gentle Reader? Anyway, telegrams out of his operatives in Siberia indicated that the Tsar was coming back, and Dmitri felt now would be a good time to inspect the outer provinces. Packing up most of the State Treasury and half his harem (taking care to leave behind the hairier Russian ...women[?], several boys who weren't butch enough, a goat, a camel, two ewes, and a lifelike simulacrum of Sarah Bernhardt), he prepared to decamp. "You were all part of the Tsar's harem when I came, so you'll just have to wait for him to return. I'm also leaving his cabinet of toys...you know, the whips, chains, rubber hoses, boots, negligees, wigs, razors, pills...."

And then, on to Kiev. And after that...who knows? Quoth the Patriarch, "The Regency will uphold the honor of the Tsar in appropriate style."

TO BE CONTINUED NEXTISH.

THE DIPLOMAT #92

AND WHAT OF THESE COURTIER'S TURNED PRINCES, EACH WITH A PROVINCE OF HIS OWN? BE SURE THEY PUT ON ROYAL CROWNS, THEY AND THEIR SONS AFTER THEM, AND SO THE WORLD WENT FROM BAD TO WORSE.

3 August 1976

Volume III No. 11

THE DIPLOMAT has passed for lo! these many months from its founder, Eric Just, to the impure hands of ~~Anthony~~/IV Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 crest dr., encinitas ca 92024; (714) 753-7657 (before 10:00 p.m. PDT only, and not on the day of the deadline). This is Alcala Publication #665. Whee... IF YOU ARE EXPECTING SOMETHING WITTY IN THIS LINEAR SEPARATOR YOU WILL BE GROSSLY DISAPPOINTED.

Announcements

1. I am totally out of stand-by players, but I'm looking. I have a big, pleading notice in the current EREHWON. Those who are resigning but good enough to hang in there until I find a replacement are really appreciated. Good chaps, good chaps!

2. Jim Ronson's orders did arrive, the day after the deadline. Jim, 2 days is not enough time for delivery down here. Allow at least 3 or 4.

3. Dinkicon III will be Sunday, 22 August, in Holmby Park in L.A. Those of you who can make this outstanding fun event, Diplomacy in the outdoors (no worrying about bloodstains!) will not be disappointed. In attendance will be me, the Fangmaster and his teeth, Eric Verheiden and his strings, Tweedleschlickbernd and Tweedlelagerson, the Homer brothers and their knives.... It starts around 10. There will probably be the traditional noon banquet of ~~whole/hot~~/piled hotdogs and potato salad. That will cost you a buck or so. Or you can sample the succulent cuisine of... McDonald's???

WELL ONWARD CHRISTIAN SOLDIERS AND ALL THAT WE HAVE BACKSTO STABBEFORE WE SLEEP BACKSTO

1975 IP

GERMANY BLOATS!!! ENGLAND REELS FROM GERMAN STAB. RUSSIA CATCHES IT FROM TURKISH TREACHERY AND STILL BREAKS EVEN. AUSTRIA SHRIVELS BUT SURVIVES.

Fall 1903:

AUSTRIA (Key): A Bud-Tri S by A Ser & F Adr. Owns: Tri, ~~Vie~~, Ser (2). Disband 1.

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Lon-Nth S by F Eng, F Por H, A Wal-Yor, F Bel ~~Hol~~ /r//Pic, d/. Owns: Edi, Lpl, Lon, ~~War~~, ~~Bel~~, Por (4). Disband 1.

FRANCE (Ronson): NMR. A Pic /h/, F Mid /h/. Owns: Bre, ~~Por~~, ~~Bel~~ (1). Disband 1 (1 nb).

ENGLAND REVISITED. Well, obviously he can't retreat to Picardy. F Bel /d/. England thus stands pat.

GERMANY (Scott): A Gas-Par S by A Bur, A Spa-Por, A Hol-Bel S by A Ruh, F Hel-Nth. Owns: Ber, Kie, Mun, Den, Hol, Mar, Bel, Par, Spa (9). Build 3.

ITALY (Weinstock): F Tyn-Nap, F Wes-Tyn, A Tri-Tri S by A Ven. Owns: Nap, Rom, Ven, Tun (4). No change.

RUSSIA (Kerins): NMR. A Gal, A Vie, A StP, A Ukr, F Nwy /h/. F Sev /h/ /d/. Owns: Mos, StP, ~~Bel~~, War, ~~Kie~~, Swe, Bud, Nwy, Vie (7). Build 2 (2 /d/).

TURKEY (Ricci): F Aeg-Ion, F Ion-Alb, F Bla S A Rum, A Arm-Sev S by A Rum. Owns: Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Gre, Rum, Sev (7). Build 2.

Winter 1903 Adjustments are due on Friday, ~~27 August~~ 1976.

ISEEMTODETECTARATHERDISTINCTLACKOFPRESSRELEASESHEREINFACTHIERLARENONEATALL

2001
(1975BMgz)

DYNAMIC DUO HELP THEMSELVES TO BIG CHUNKS OF EUROPE. INDIAN MARINES LAND IN NATAL PROVINCE. NEW WORLD NATIONS DECLARE TRUCE TO GAPE AT THE OLD WORLD'S ANTICS. MEGATONS GO POOF! MEXICO RETAINS INDEPENDENCE.

Fall 2003: Nuked units are marked *.

AUSTRALIA (Scott): F Bik-Okh S by *F Hon, F Rōu-Boc, F Jav-Ind, F Ind -Cln, F Dra-Fal. Has 12M. Owns: Bri, Mel, Pth, Syd, Ind, New (6). NC.

BRAZIL (Ronson): NMR. F Crb, F Tri, F Arg, F Per, A Ama /h/. Has OM. Owns: Bah, Bel, Bra, Rio, Arg (5). NC.

CHINA (Weinstock): A Pek-Mon /lap/, A Mly-Kor C by F Sou & F Yel, *A Nan -Kan. Owns: Cnt, ~~Qnh~~, Nan, Pek, Pie (4). Disband 1. (oh...has 5M)

EUROPE (Key): F Par MS *F Lon (F Lon /r//Sco, d/, F Sar-Ibe. Owns: ~~Wdh~~, ~~Wdh~~, Par, Rom, ~~Zbh~~ (2). Disband 1 (2 nb). (Oops...5M-Ser, has 1M)

INDIA (Ricci): F Mad-Mld S by F Ben, F Ara-Som, A Ira MS A Prs, F Moz -Dur. 10M-Mld, has 1 M. Owns: Bom, Blc, Del, Mad, Pak, Ira, Dur (7). Build 1.

NIGERIA (Sergeant): F Gha-Asc, A Mor-Ibe S by F Azo, A Isr S SOUTH AFRICAN A Tur-Ira /nso/, A Mec S A Isr, F Nth-Lon. 5M-Lon, has 1M. Owns: Acc, Kin, Lag, Nia, Sen, Mec, Ibe, Lon (8). Build 2.

RUSSIA (Hinton): A Bai-Man, F Vla-Okh, F Jap-Kor, A Sax /h/, A Aus-Bon, A Chu H, *A Ser-Rom. 5M-Nan, has 3M. Owns: Len, Mos, Ode, Oms, Vlp, Pol, Aus, Bon, Chu (9). Build 2.

SOUTH AFRICA (Lakofka): F Bau H, *F Mld H /d/, F Som H, A Zan H, A Tur H. 5M-Hon, has 2M. Owns: Cap, ~~Wdh~~, Pre, Sal, Mgs, Zai (5). Build 1 (2 /d/). Transfers all centers to RUSSIA, eff. W03 [fails; see below].

U.S.A. (Kerins): NMR. F Ber, F Los, F Gui, F Gal, F Nat /h/. Has 5M. Owns: Bos, Los, Sea, Was, Col (5). NC.

UNC: A Mex /h/.

Winter 2003 Adjustments are due on Friday, ~~27 August~~ 3 Sept. 1976. Players who have no builds/removals must still order M production if they wish it to occur.

The attempted SouAf transfer failed for 2 reasons: first, because Rule VII.A.3 specifically forbids transfer of centers to a larger power. Second, the order fails because even had it been legal I would have disallowed it. The intent of Rule VII is not to allow a player to commit suicide. Its specific purpose is to allow a player to strengthen an ally, or to keep alive a puppet who would otherwise go under. No way am I going to permit suicide in this fashion.

Therefore: Transfer of centers will be disallowed if the transferring player (a) thereby loses all of his centers or (b) thereby makes himself smaller than any player or players to whom he is transferring centers.

Len is also resigning as South Africa in this game. I am asking him to continue briefly while I locate a replacement player.

Elmer Hinton will be thrilled: press on the next page or so.

MOSCOW (28 July 2003): The Tsar sat whimpering as he rocked himself on the ornately carved, ivory-inlaid throne, with his big toe in his mouth. After his arrival in January it was discovered that the Patriarch had escaped, leaving behind most of his ill-gotten booty and half the harem. The Tsar had ordered everything returned to the rightful owners. ("Not the girls. I must question them...about the traitor's activities.") Almost everything.

Dimitri was reading a report summary to the noble no-name. "Kiev, Donetsk, Baku, Tashkent; Borshcht has led us a merry chase; and there have been reports of his presence everywhere: Berlin, captured Ankara, the eastern front...everywhere."

The Tsar stopped sucking his foot long enough for an occasional question or comment. "How much money has he stolen so far?" His tone was low, but interspersed with a high nervous note at odd moments.

Dimitri smiled. "There we have done well. I have cut-off his greatest means of support."

"You mean...?"

"Yes! I cancelled all of Borshcht's credit cards!"

"Good, good. And all is in preparation for tonight?"

Dimitri presented the prepared speech to the Tsar. "The satellite hookup assures us coverage on every television in the land. The local authorities will see to it that every set in all the Russias is turned on, and we have arranged to preempt every channel existent."

The Anonymous Liberator read over the speech. "One million Rubles for the head of the false Regent, Patriarch Dmitri Flimflamovitch Borshcht, whether in association with his body or not. We will also double whatever he pays you to keep silent, if you inform to us!" Excellent, excellent. We leave for the studio! Gregor!

Gregor entered with a wheelchair to transport the Tsar. It had been useful ever since he had tried a yoga position to relax, and couldn't quite get out of it. The doctors did say he should be fine in a few weeks, but for now Dimitri and Gregor lifted the Tsar bodily into the wheelchair and pushed him out of the door.

The hall was quiet and empty then. A shadow fell on the throne, moving from behind it to a side entrance, and was gone.

MOSCOW (28 July 2003)(Butler Press): Imperial Komsomol cadets had been out all afternoon, telling everyone to tune in their television sets for an Important Announcement at 8 that evening. This was really important, because Russian TV sets are anything but easy to tune, and it sometimes took a day or so of fiddling to get a picture at all, much less a clear one. Thanks to the timely door-pounding by the dear, brave, reverent, loyal, clean little brats, nearly 80% of Russia's sets had achieved some sort of image by D-Hour.

An announcer appeared, more or less. "We interrupt whatever it was you were doing for an Important Announcement from His Imperial Majesty the Tsar."

Scarcely had the Tsar's grim visage, big toe and all, appeared on the screen than it faded and another announcer appeared. "We interrupt this Important Announcement for a Vital Revelation by the Regent, Patriarch Dmitri Flimflamovitch Borshcht." Canned applause rippled and roared over the speakers of all the sets in All the Russias.

The Tsar's face returned. "One million Rubles for..."

Cut to the Regent. "...defense, but not one Kopeck for tribute. That is our motto. The glorious forces of the Tsar will bear home in triumph..."

Cut to the Tsar. "...the head of the false..."

"Leader of the cowardly Europeans. Under the creative leadership of the Tsar and the vital stardship of His true and loyal..."

"...Regent, Patriarch Dmitri Flimflamovitch Borshcht, whether in..."

"...peace or war. Now, in..."

"...association with..."

"...our glorious allies, we are fighting a new Great Fatherland War, although we do not know whether we are a..."

"...head or not."

The Patriarch cleared his throat. "We have determined, therefore, to reward our loyal citizens for their continued efforts. Go to your employer tomorrow, and tell him in the Name of the Tsar that..."

"We will also double whatever he pays you..."

"...retroactive to last January first! Remember, citizens, spies are everywhere and even the walls have ears! Your esteemed Tsar desires you..."

"...to keep silent..."

"...but if you hear news of the enemy, we will reward handsomely..."

"...if you inform to us!"

The Patriarch smiled. "This we promise in the name of the Holy Virgin, the Living Saints, and the Precious Gospel. Farewell, citizens!"

Fade....

ELSEWHERE IN MOSCOW (28 July 2003)(via Barad Crest): "Lamont, are you all right?" Margot Lane's voice was sharp with worry.

"I'm quite all right, my dear," Lamont Cranston replied.

"But you're limping."

"Oh...well...I fell on the Tsar's throne, you know, and barked my shin. Nothing serious, although I may file a grievance about the careless writing around here. I must be overclouding some minds..."

TIFLIS (29 July 2003)(Butler Press): The Bank of Tiflis had barely opened when Patriarch Dmitri Borshcht walked in. "Of course you recognize me?" he asked the teller, Tanya Dzugashvili, a pretty, bubble-headed honey blonde of some 22 innocent summers.

"Oh, yes, Your Excellency! We all saw you on the telly last night."

"Of course, I have here a bank draft for twenty million rubles. As you can see, it is signed by myself and countersigned by His Imperial Majesty. The war effort, you know."

"Why, we just happen to have that amount in small unmarked bills wrapped in brown paper bags. Will that do?"

"I ordered it prepared that way yesterday. Of course it will do."

"...Um, tell me, Tanya, do you like to travel?"

"Oh, yes!"

"Come along then, let's boogie."

"Right on, big daddy!"

THISHEREISYETANOTHEREVERPOPULARLINEARSEPARATORTHEONLYPROBLEMISTHAT THEREIS NOTHINGBELOWTOSEPARATETHEABOVEFROMYOUKNOWITSPRETTYCATCHYTYPINGTHESE THINGS ANDITSREALLYHARDTOSTOPINFACITIMONTHETHIRDLINEHELPICANTSTOPICANTSTOPICANTSTOP

THE ~~D~~IPLOMAT

#93

FROM THE DAY WAR WAS DECLARED THE EMPEROR WAS NEVER SEEN TO SMILE. HE PLACED HIMSELF ON WAR RATIONS AND INSISTED THAT BLACK BREAD BE SERVED AT HIS TABLE, EVEN FOR GUESTS.

9 September 1976

Volume III Number 13

THE DIPLOMAT lasted for 71 issues under Eric Just and is since under the less tender mercies of Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024, (714) 753-7657. This is Alcala Publication #668.

Subscriptions to T.D. are 10/\$1, sent in bouquets of 2 or more at a time. The game-fee (for 2001 only) is \$7.00 (\$6 if you already have the rules/maps).

1976 IP

RUMORED DEPARTURE OF TSAR THROWS THE RUSSIAS INTO TURMOIL. GERMANY BLOATS

Winter 1903: W. Elmer Hinton, Jr., 20 Almont St., Nashua NH 03060, is requested to send Spring 1904 orders for Russia. In the position lists below, disbandments are slashed (///) and builds are marked *.

AUSTRIA (Key): A Tri, A Ser, F/Adt (2).

ENGLAND (Lakofka): ~~*****~~ oops.

F Nth, F Eng, F Por, A Yor (4). No change.

FRANCE (Ronson): A Pic, F/Vzd (1). Disbandment made by GM in accordance with Rule XIV.4.

GERMANY (Scott): F Ber*, F Kie*, A Mun*, A Par, A Bur, A Spa, A Bel, A Ruh, F Hel (9).

ITALY (Weinstock): F Nap, F Tyn, A Trl, A Ven (4). No change.

RUSSIA (Kerins?): NBR. A Gal, A Vie, A StP, A Ukr, F Nwy (5--2 short)

TURKEY (Ricci): A Con*, F Smy*, F Ion, F Alb, F Bla, A Sev, A Rum (7)

SPRING 1904 ORDERS are due by Friday, 1 October 1976.

"2001" will appear on the next page. We pause momentarily for:

EREHWON 98B

(Alcala Publication #670)

1975CY

Fall 1903: Nicky Ulanov may be reached now at: 48 University Pl., Princeton NJ 08540.

AUSTRIA (Watson): A Ser-Tri, A Tri-Ven S by F Adr, A Vie-Tri, A Bul-Con, F Gre-Aeg. Owns: Bud, Tri, Vie, Gre, Ser, Bul, Con, Ven (8). Build

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Iri-Nat S by F Lpl, F Skg-Nwy, F Nth-Lon. Owns: Edt, Lpl, Lon, Nwy (2). Disband 2.

FRANCE (Schlickbernd): F Eng-Lon, A Bel S GERMAN A Hol /otm/, A Pic-Bur, A Cly-Edi, F Mid-Iri, F Nat-Lpl /r//Mid, Cly, Nrg, d/. Owns: Bre, Mar, Par, Por, Spa, Bel, Edi (7). Build 1.

GERMANY (Leeder): A Mun-Ber S by A Kie & F Bal, A Hol-Ruh. Owns: Kie, Mun, Den, Hol (4). No change.

ITALY (Payne): F Rom-Tyn, F Nap-Ion, A Tun H, A Trl S RUSSIAN A Ber-Mun. Owns: Nap, Rom, Yeh, Tun (3). Disband 1.

RUSSIA (Ulanov): A Arm-Smy, A Ber-Mun S by A Sil, A Rum /h/, A War S A Sil, F Nwy /h/, A StP-Fin, F Ank S AUSTRIAN A Bul-Con. Owns: Mos, StP, Sev, War, Rum, Swe, Ank, Ber, Nwy (9). Build 1.

TURKEY (Gemignani): A Con-Smy S by F Aeg (A Con /d/). Owns: Qdh, Smy (1). No change (1 /d/).

WINTER 1903 ADJUSTMENTS are due by Friday, 1 October 1976
EREHWON cometh out soon. This is just to tide you over.

2001

(1975BMgz)

GAME CANCELLED?

Winter 2003. Add Honshu to Australia's list of supply centers, for a total of 7.

BOX SCORE THUS FAR. Three of the players are replacements: Scott, Ronson, and Hinton. Four more players have resigned, and I have no replacement for any of them: Key, Sergeant, Lakofka, and Kerins.

I do not see how the game can continue under these circumstances. Even if I could make wholesale replacements at this point, I would be none too happy; as it is, to have four players not active reduces the game to little more than a farce.

The regular game is continuing well, and I propose to keep that one; as for the variant section, I see no alternative to scrapping it.

I undoubtedly owe some of you money for unplayed seasons, and I will take care of that problem this month.

I will be opening a new section of "2001" immediately, however. I feel the game itself actually showed considerable viability. The game fee for anyone with a set of maps/rules will be a flat \$6. Otherwise it will be \$7.

Why did the game meet a bad end?

1. For one thing, I am convinced I made a mistake by making it too easy to resign. Players who are paying by the season don't have a financial stake to lose. It's nice for the players, but I suspect that it contributed to a good amount of hell for this GM.

2. Len Lakofka says there was cross-game negotiating between this game and the regular one. He did not, nor did I ask him to, go into specifics. I am not surprised; the temptation is always there. I had hoped, however, that the players would be adult enough to play each game on its own merits. Apparently I was mistaken.

I do not know for a demonstrated fact that cross-game negotiating was going on. I don't want to know. I also don't want to know who was involved. In my book, using one game as a diplomatic lever in another game is absolutely indefensible. It is totally dirty pool, and if there is such a thing as "cheating" in Diplomacy, that's it. I personally put such players on a par with people who cheat on exams, steal candy from babies, and deliberately run over animal corpses on the freeway. Do I make myself clear?

Anyone who feels righteous about engaging in such tactics is cordially invited to refrain from joining any of my games.

If I owe you money, and you want to join the new "2001" section, I will credit same against the game fee. (This issue cancels my trade with Robert Sacks, by the way. The Miller Number for the new game will be obtained from Jeremy Maiden. In doing so, I am joining Fred Davis, Walter Luc Haas, and other hobby variant GMs who, tired of Sacks' endless bureaucratic nitpicking and erratic behavior, no longer recognize him as Miller Number Custodian.)

THE DIPLOMAT #94

WHEN A MODERATE DEGREE OF COMFORT IS ASSURED, BOTH INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES WILL PURSUE POWER RATHER THAN WEALTH.

11 October 1976

Volume III Number 13

THE DIPLOMAT, founded by Eric Just in 1967, is edited and published by Rod Walker, "Alcala", 1273 Crest Dr., Encinitas CA 92024; (714) 753-7657. This is Alcala Publication #672. Subs to T.D. are 10/\$1, sent in batches of 2 or more at a time. The game-fee (for "2001" only) is \$7 (or \$6 if you have rules/maps).

NEW TSAR TAKES HELM IN ST. PETERSBURG. THIRD REPUBLIC FALLS. AUSTRIA SURVIVES.

Spring 1904: Elmer Hinton is now Russia, as Jack Kerins has missed two consecutive seasons. Jim Ronson has also missed twice and is dropped; France is now in civil disorder. Scott COA: 1027 Ninth St., #51, Albany CA 94740.

AUSTRIA (Key): A Ser-Bud S by A Tri (A Tri /r//Ser, d/).

ENGLAND (Lakofka): F Nth-Nrg, F Eng-Nth, F Por H, A Ycr screams HELP!!

FRANCE (~~XXXXXX~~)(c.d.): A Pic /h/.

GERMANY (Scott): F Ber-Bal, F Kie-Hol, A Mun-Trl, A Par-Bre, A Eur-Gas, A Spa-Por, A Bel-Pic, A Ruh-Kie, F Hel-Nth.

ITALY (Weinstock): F Nap H, F Tyn-Tun, A Trl-Tri S by A Ven.

RUSSIA (~~XXXXXX~~)(Hinton): A Gal S TURKISH A Rum-Bud /nso/, A Vie S ITALIAN A Trl-Tri, A StP-Nos, A Ukr S TURKISH A Sev-Rum /nso/ /r//War, d/, F Nwy H.

TURKEY (Ricci): A Con-Bul, F Smy-Aeg, F Ion H, F Alb S AUSTRIAN A Tri, F Bla S A Rum, A Sev-Ukr S by A Rum.

FALL 1904 ORDERS are due on Friday, 12 November 1976. They may of course be made conditional on the direction of the two retreats.

LINEAR SEPARATOR=====DON'T TEAR

C I R I T H U N G O L # 4 0

CIRITH UNGOL is the sole home of 1974, which started grandly as the demo game for EL CON, slipped into being the demo game for POCKET ARMENIAN, and is now just.... Anyway, this is Alcala Publication #673 edited and all that by Rod Walker.

Autumn 1911: FRANCE: F Lyo R-Spa(sc); F Bal R-Ber.

Winter 1911: In the position lists below, builds are marked # (disbandments are ~~XXXXXX~~). The Austrian disbandment was made by the GM in accordance with the Rulebook. France proposes a 3-way draw (France/Italy/Russia). Vote due next time.

AUSTRIA (Calhaver?): NRR. ~~XXXXXX~~, A Vie, A Tri (2).

FRANCE (Lakofka): F Bre#, A Bur, A Mun, A Kie, A Ruh, F Ber, A Den, F NAT, F Tun, F Wes, F Mar, A Gas, F Spa(sc), F Swe, F Nth, F Nrg (16).

ITALY (Key): A Ven#, F Nap, F Ion, F Lyo, F Tus, A Pic(6).

RUSSIA (Buchanan): A Sev#, F Bal, F Bot, F Nwy, A Fin, F Bar, A Boh, A War, A Bud, A Rum (40).

SPRING 1912 ORDERS are due on Friday, 12 November 1976.